

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4173

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 14852

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JA, CH

SUBJ: TENG HSIAO-PENG'S COMMENTS ON CHIAO-MIYAZAWA TALKS

REF: TOKYO 14029 DTG 021045Z OCT 75

SUMMARY: PRC DEP PREMIER TENG HSIAO-PING'S WAS EVEN TOUGHER WITH DIETMAN KOSAKA IN CRITIZING FONMIN MIYAZAWA'S REMARKS TO PRESS ON CHIAO/MIYAZAWA TALKS THAN PRESS REPORTS INDICATED. THUS FAR, FONOFF DISCOUNTS TENG'S CRITICISM AS BASED ON INADEQUATE BRIEFING OF ACTUAL TALKS (SINCE FONMIN CHIACO HAD NOT RETURNED TO PEKING AT THAT POINT) AND CONCEIVABLY AS A DELIBERATE ATTEMPT BY KOSAKA TO DISCREDIT FONMIN MIYAZAWA. END SUMMARY.

1. IN HIS REMARKS TO VISITING LDP DIETMAN ZENTARO KOSAKA, PRC DEP PREMIER TENG HSIAO-PING WAS TOUGHER
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ON FONMIN MIYAZAWA THAN PRESS REPORTS INDICATED.

FONOFF CHINA DIVDIR FUJITA TOLD US THAT KOSAKA, WHO VISITED PRC SEPT 29 - OCT 9, TOLD GOJ EMBASSY PEKING THAT TENG WAS VERY HARSH IN HIS CRITICISM OF FONMIN MIYAZAWA'S PRESS COMMENTS FOLLOWING LATTER'S SEPT 25 AND SEPT 27 MEETINGS IN NEW YORK WITH PRC FONMIN CHIAO KUAN-HUA. TENG STRESSED AT LEAST THREE POINTS OF REPROACH: A) HE WAS "AMAZED" THAT MIYAZAWA WOULD SEE SOVIET FONMIN GROMYKOO ON THE SAME DAY (SEPT 25) WHICH MIYAZAWA PROPOSED MEETING AND MET WITH CHIAO. B) TENG SEVERELY CRITICIZED MIYAZAWA FOR SAYING THAT NEXT INITIATIVE ON PEACE FRIENDSHIP TREATY WAS UP TO PEKING. TENG SAID THIS WAS SIMPLY NOT TRUE. MIYAZAWA HAD "CAMOUFLAGED" TRUTH OF MATTER TO JAPANESE PRESS. C) TENG ACCUSED MIYAZAWA OF RESCINDING EARLIER INVITATION ISSUED BY GOJ (TANAKA-OHIRA) TO CHINESE FONMIN (CHI PENG-FEI) TO VISIT JAPAN BY TELLING JAPANESE PRESS THAT IN ABSENCE OF PROGRESS ON PFT CONDITIONS WOULD NOT BE FAVORABLE. (FUJITA INFORMED US IN FACT THAT INVITATION WAS NOT EXPLICITLY RE-EXTENDED BUT STILL STANDS AND CHIAO SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO VISIT JAPAN AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME. MIYAZAWA DELIBERATELY MISLED THE PRESS TO AVOID RAISING EXPECTATIONS OF EITHER AN EARLY BREAKTHROUGH ON PFT OR AN IMMINENT VISIT BY CHIAO TO JAPAN.)

2. FUJITA TOLD US THAT FONOFF AND MIYAZAWA WERE EXTREMELY ANNOYED WITH TENG'S REPORTED REMARKS. BOTH IN TOKYO AND PEKING, ACCORDING TO FUJITA, JAPANESE HAVE INFORMALLY MADE KNOWN THIS DISPLEASURE TO CHINESE AUTHORITIES.

3. FUJITA OFFERED THREE POSSIBLE EXPLANATIONS FOR CRITICISM ALLEGEDLY MADE TO KOSAKA BY TENG: A) WHEN KOSAKA MET TENG, FONMIN CHIAO HAD NOT YET RETURNED TO PEKING AND TENG'S REACTION WAS BASED ON FRAGMENTARY PRESS ACCOUNTS PROVIDED EITHER BY PRC EMBASSY TOKYO OR FROM NEW YORK. PRESUMABLY TENG HAD NOT YET RECEIVED A FULL REPORT FROM CHIAO. B) FONOFF IS SCEPTICAL OF KOSAKA'S REPORT. ALTHOUGH BOTH KOSAKA AND FONMIN MIYAZAWA ARE IN OHIRA FACTION. THEY HAVE BEEN ON BAD TERMS FOR SOME TIME. REFLECTING THIS, KOSAKA ALSO LET IT BE KNOWN THAT TENG TOLD HIM, "WE ARE COUNTING ON CONFIDENTIAL

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OLD FRIENDS LIKE YOU," MEANING PRESUMABLY THAT THE MIKE/MIYAZAWA CABINET HAS NOT BEEN AS FORTHCOMING IN RELATIONS WITH PEKING AS TANAKA/OHIRA AND KOSAKA HIMSELF. FURTHER REFLECTING ESTRANGEMENT BETWEEN KOSAKA AND MIYAZAWA, FUJITA ALSO COMMENTED THAT PRIOR TO HIS PRC VISIT, KOSAKA SAW PM MIKI TWICE AND WAS BRIEFED BY FUJITA BUT DID NOT EVEN SEE MIYAZAWA. C) FUJITA OFFERED A THIRD POSSIBLE EXPLANATION FOR TENG'S TOUGHER LINE.

AS A REHABILITEE FROM CULTURAL REVOLUTION DISGRACE, TENG HAS BEEN NOTACABLY MORE CAUTIOUS ON SINO-JAPANESE RELATIONS THAN OTHERS, INCLUDING CHIAO KUAN-HUA AND OF COURSE CHOU EN-LAI. IN ABSENCE OF FONMIN CHIAO'S REPORT ON CHIAO-MIYAZAWA MEETING, TENG MAY HAVE PURPOSELY AVOIDED COMMENTS WHICH COULD HAVE SUGGESTED A "CAPITULATION" TO JAPANSE ON "HEGEMONY" ISSUE.

4. COMMENT: PETTINESS OF TENG'S CRITICISM AND CONTRADICTIONS AT LEAST WITH FONOFF'S ACCOUNT OF WHAT TRANSPIRED INMIYAZAWA-CHIAO TALKS LEND PLAUSIBILITY TO FUJITA'S THESIS THAT TENG HAD SIMPLY: NOT YET BEEN FULLY BRIEFED ON TALKS. NEVERTHELESS, PEKING MAY BE DISSATISFIED WITH THE TALKS AND TENG MAY BE STEPPING UP PRESSURE TO TRY TO MOVE JAPAN TO FURTHER COMPROMISE. SOUNDINGS FROM PEKING SHOULD BE MORE RELIABLE NOW THAT CHIAO HAS RETURNED AND AFTER CHIAO DISCUSSES HIS TALKS WITH OTHER PRC LEADERS. WE DOUBT, FRANKLY, THAT KOSAKA WOULD BE PETTY ENOUGH TO USE THIS MEANS OF DISCREDITING MIYAZAWA--OR EVEN CONSIDERING IT NECESSARY TO DO SO. THERE IS, HOWEVER, NO DENYING MUTUAL ENMITY BETWEEN THE TWO MEN. HODGSON

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